

In his retirement, Mr. Bellardini remained active as a member of the Potsdam Elks Lodge, the VFW, the American Legion, and the Knights of Columbus. He was also an avid hunter.

He will be greatly missed by those left behind, including his son, his sister, two daughters, six grandchildren, as well as four great-grandchildren.

Like so many of that generation, he lived by the motto: "I was just doing my job." That is something we in Washington should clearly emulate.

I thank you for joining with me in honoring Mr. Bellardini's life and his service to our country.

IT IS NEVER OKAY TO DISREGARD OUR MOST BASIC PRIVACY RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. HARTZLER. I rise today in response to a situation which is currently causing a great deal of concern among law-abiding citizens in my home State of Missouri.

We have learned, through the diligent work of State Senator Kurt Schaefer and others in State government, that the Missouri Department of Revenue, which issues concealed-carry permits in our State, has improperly allowed this sensitive, personal information to be shared with the Federal Government. This egregious disregard for privacy rights led last week to the resignation of the director of the State Department of Revenue.

While Missourians are pleased that this inappropriate sharing of information has been discovered, we are still trying to determine why information on who is legally licensed to carry concealed firearms was surrendered to Federal authorities in the first place.

I stand with Missouri's elected representatives as they pursue all legal avenues to learn why the Missouri Department of Revenue displayed such blatant disregard for the rights of our honest, law-abiding citizens.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 4 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, we give You thanks for giving us another day. Lead us this day

in Your ways, that our Nation might be guided along the roads of peace, justice, and goodwill.

Grant strength and wisdom to our Speaker and the Members of both the people's House and the Senate, to our President and his Cabinet, and to our Supreme Court.

Bless as well the moral and military leaders of our country, and may those who are the captains of business, industry, and unions learn to work together toward the mutual benefit of all.

Grant us the courage to develop a sound energy program for the good of all. Bestow on the Members of Congress the perseverance to provide a framework that protects the rights and concerns of all Americans in the wake of terrible violence in our land and the wisdom to forge a fair and equitable immigration reform, that together we might look ahead to ever greater goals for the continued growth of our Nation.

May all that is done within the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BROWNLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. BROWNLEY of California led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT OF 2013

(Mr. KLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Minnesotans I serve who tell me simply: it's about time.

I rise today on behalf of a South St. Paul mom and dad who find it difficult to balance work and family and feel they are not spending enough time with their children.

I rise today on behalf of the Minnesota National Guard and all our brave men and women in uniform who are deployed while their spouses single-

handedly juggle work and household responsibilities.

I rise today on behalf of a college student from Shakopee and millions like her working full-time while pursuing an undergraduate degree.

And I rise today on behalf of an Eagan couple, who, like more than 50 million working Americans, spend at least 8 hours a week providing care for aging relatives, a challenge when balancing the demands of a job.

Mr. Speaker, outdated Federal policy denies many workers the chance to spend more time with their children or care for an aging relative. Accordingly, the Education and Workforce Committee approved legislation last week that will fix this outdated policy and help more Americans balance family and work.

Mr. Speaker, Americans sacrifice a great deal to provide for their families, and I agree with my Minnesotan constituents and most Americans: it is about time.

DON'T DISCOURAGE CROSS-BORDER TRAVEL

(Mr. HIGGINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I was alarmed to discover that the Department of Homeland Security's budget request proposed a study of the imposition of a fee—a tax—for passengers and pedestrians at our northern land border crossing.

Western New York is home to two rail and three vehicle crossings, including the Peace Bridge, the second busiest northern border crossing. Integrating the economies of western New York and southern Ontario is essential to our economic strength, and nationally 300,000 people cross our Canadian border by vehicle each day and spend an estimated \$235 million.

Last year, the American and Canadian Governments signed a historic Beyond-the-Border agreement to bolster cross-border travel. The imposition of a border toll will discourage cross-border travel and goes against the spirit of this historic agreement.

Mr. Speaker, we should be encouraging increased economic activity between the United States and Canada, not stifling it. This proposal is completely unacceptable and must be withdrawn immediately.

SIMPLIFY AND STRENGTHEN FEDERAL SCHOOL AID PROGRAMS

(Mr. WALBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, for many young people, higher education has become a very expensive dream because of rising costs. The average new graduate is struggling to pay off more than \$25,000 in debt while hunting for a job in this stagnant economy.

While Washington can play a role in fixing the problem, we cannot look to